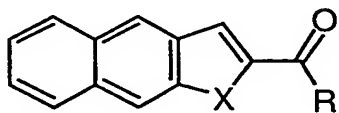


CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A compound of formula I:

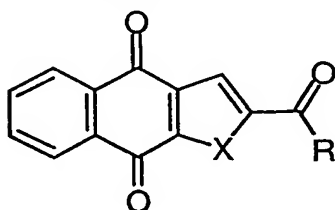


I

wherein X is O or S; and R is straight-chained or branched C₁-C₆ alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, or straight-chained or branched alkylaryl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; wherein 1) R is not methyl; 2) where X is O, R is not bromomethyl, unsubstituted phenyl, or phenyl substituted at the 4-position with methyl, chloro, ethenyl, or 2'-chloroethyl; and 3) where X is S, R is not 2-carboxyphenyl.

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein X is S, and R is aryl or substituted aryl.
3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said substituted aryl is substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, alkoxy, C₁-C₆ alkyl, nitro, halogen, carboxyl and carboxyalkyl.
4. A compound according to claim 1, wherein X is S, and R is phenyl.

5. A compound of formula II:

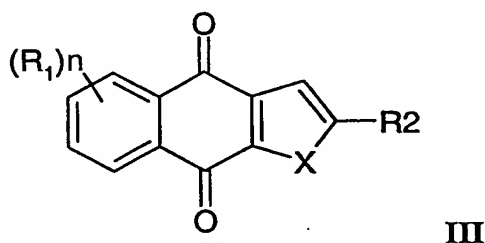


II

wherein X is O or S; and R is straight-chained or branched C₁-C₆ alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, or straight-chained or branched alkylaryl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; wherein R is not methyl.

6. A compound according to claim 5, wherein X is O or S, and R is C₁-C₆ alkyl, aryl or mono- or di-substituted aryl.

7. A compound according to claim 5 or 6, wherein said substituted aryl is substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, alkoxy, alkyl, nitro, halogen, carboxyl and carboxyalkyl.
8. A compound according to claim 5, wherein X is O, and R is phenyl.
9. A compound according to claim 5, wherein X is O, and R is 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl.
10. A compound according to claim 5, wherein X is S, and R is phenyl.
11. A compound according to claim 5, wherein X is S, and R is 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl.
12. A compound according to claim 5, wherein X is S, and R is 4-hydroxyphenyl.
13. A compound according to claim 5, wherein X is S, and R is 3,4-dihydroxyphenyl.
14. A compound of formula III:



wherein X is O or S; R_1 is independently at each incidence hydroxyl, alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, nitro, halogen, carboxyl or carboxyalkyl; R_2 is hydrogen or $-C(O)-R_3$, R_3 is straight-chained or branched C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, or straight-chained or branched alkylaryl; and n is 0, 1 or 2; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; wherein 1) where X is O, R_2 is not H; 2) where X is O, and R_2 is $-C(O)-R_3$, and R_3 is methyl, then R_1 is not hydroxyl or methoxy; and 3) where X is S and R_2 is H, then n is 1 and R_1 is selected from $-OH$ and $-OC(O)-alkyl(C_1-C_6)$; and 4) where X is S and R_2 is $-C(O)-R_3$, and R_3 is methyl, then R_1 does not represent a 7-acetyl group.

15. A compound according to claim 14, wherein X is S, R₁ is hydroxyl or alkylcarbonyl, R₂ is hydrogen, and n is 1.
16. A compound according to claim 14, wherein X is S, R₁ is 5-carboxymethyl, R₂ is hydrogen, and n is 1.
17. A compound according to claim 14, wherein X is S, R₁ is 5-hydroxyl, R₂ is hydrogen, and n is 1.
18. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 4 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
20. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 5 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
21. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 8-13 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
22. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 14 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

23. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claims 16 or 17 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
24. A method of treating or preventing cell proliferative disorders comprising administering to a mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1-17.
25. The method according to claim 24, wherein the compound is administered as a pharmaceutical composition of claim 18.
26. The method according to claim 24, wherein the compound is administered as a pharmaceutical composition of claim 19.
27. The method according to claim 24, wherein the compound is administered as a pharmaceutical composition of claim 20.
28. The method according to claim 24, wherein the compound is administered as a pharmaceutical composition of claim 21.
29. The method according to claim 24, wherein the compound is administered as a pharmaceutical composition of claim 22.
30. The method according to claim 24, wherein the compound is administered as a pharmaceutical composition of claim 23

31. A method of treating cancer or precancerous conditions or preventing cancer comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18.
32. A method of treating cancer or precancerous conditions or preventing cancer comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19.
33. A method of treating cancer or precancerous conditions or preventing cancer comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20.
34. A method of treating cancer or precancerous conditions or preventing cancer comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 21.
35. A method of treating cancer or precancerous conditions or preventing cancer comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 22.
36. A method of treating cancer or precancerous conditions or preventing cancer comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 23.
37. A method of treating or preventing psoriasis comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18.

38. A method of treating or preventing psoriasis comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19.
39. A method of treating or preventing psoriasis comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20.
40. A method of treating or preventing psoriasis comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 21.
41. A method of treating or preventing psoriasis comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 22.
42. A method of treating or preventing psoriasis comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 23.